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AF 11652:  
RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR §1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE REQUESTED  
GROUP 1652

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Attorney Docket :  
032301 WN 205

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:

Brigitte BATHE, *et al.*

Serial No. : 09/942,936

Filed: August 31, 2001

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Examiner: C. FRONDA

Group Art Unit: 1652

For : NUCLEOTIDE SEQUENCES WHICH CODE FOR THE *sigH* GENE

**AFTER-FINAL AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

A response to the Office Action dated July 15, 2003 (Paper No. 17) is due by October 15, 2003. Therefore, please accept this Amendment as timely filed.

For the purpose of placing the above-captioned application in immediate condition for allowance, or alternatively, in better form for appeal, Applicants respectfully request entry and consideration of this Amendment under 37 C.F.R. §1.116.

In response to Paper No. 17, kindly amend the above-identified patent application as follows.